GEN 13
image
6
NOV
$2.50
$3.55
CANADA
JIM LEE
WILLIAMS
BRANDON CHOI
JIM LEE
SCOTT WILLIAMS

FOUR MONTHS AGO.
EDEN'S GATE, CABALLITO ISLAND.
HIS NAME IS LEON CARVER.
RAISED IN WEST MEMPHIS, ARKANSAS, LEON BECAME AN ALL-AMERICAN FOOTBALL STAR IN HIGH SCHOOL AND MADE HIS WAY OUT OF THE DRUG AND CRIME-INFESTED NEIGHBORHOOD BY PARLAYING THAT ACHIEVEMENT INTO AN ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP TO HOWARD UNIVERSITY.
ALWAYS LOOKING FOR THAT NEXT STEP UP, LEON EAGERLY SIGNED UP TO JOIN PROJECT: GENESIS WHEN THE MEN IN BLACK CAME KNOCKING AT THE DOOR AT THE END OF HIS FRESHMAN YEAR.
LITTLE DID HE REALIZE HE'D SOON BECOME A HUMAN GUINEA PIG FOR I.O. HE TRIED TO ESCAPE, BUT HE NEVER HAD A CHANCE AGAINST THE KEEPERS.
AND THE LAST THING LEON CARVER CAN REMEMBER IS THE FREEZING COLD LIQUID DROWNING OUT HIS SCREAMS.
BUT RIGHT NOW, IT FEELS AS THOUGH ALL THE NERVE ENDINGS IN HIS BODY ARE ON FIRE.
YEEARRGH!
THE DECRYONIZATION PROCESS IS NEARLY COMPLETE, IVANA.
SO, WHO'S THE NEW BOY, MATTHEW?
CARVER, LEON.
HIS CODE-NAME IS FROSTBITE.
THE PSYCH-PROFILE SAYS HE'S ONE ANGRY YOUNG MAN. BUT ALSO VERY BRIGHT AND AMBITIOUS.
HE SOUNDS JUST LIKE YOUR TYPE.
I GUESS YOU SHOULD KNOW.
FSSSSSSHH

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FSSSSSSHH

YOU AND IVANA CAN *PLAY HOUSE* WITH THE NEW *RECRUITS*, BROTHER DEAREST, BUT *I'M* OUT OF HERE.

WE'RE WASTING OUR TIME ON THIS *DESERTED* PIECE OF ROCK. WE SHOULD BE LOOKING FOR LYNCH'S *GEN-13*. I'M GOING TO FIND THEM.

BESIDES, THIS SUN IS TOO *HARSH* FOR MY DELICATE *COMPLEXION*. IF I STAY HERE ANY LONGER, I'LL END UP LOOKING LIKE *IVANA*.

LEAVE AND YOU MIGHT NOT MAKE IT TO MY *RIPE* OLD AGE, DEAR.

IT'S A *DANGEROUS* WORLD OUT THERE. ESPECIALLY WHEN *I.O.* HAS A *PRICE* ON YOUR HEAD.

"CABILLITO IS OUR ONLY *SAFE HAVEN* NOW."

"HERE WE CAN ASSEMBLE THE NEW TEAM, TRAIN THEM, AND THEN SEARCH FOR THE *RENEGADES*."

NOW, YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO *JEOPARDIZE* OUR OPERATION, WOULD YOU?

YOU OUGHT TO LISTEN TO HER, *NICOLE*.

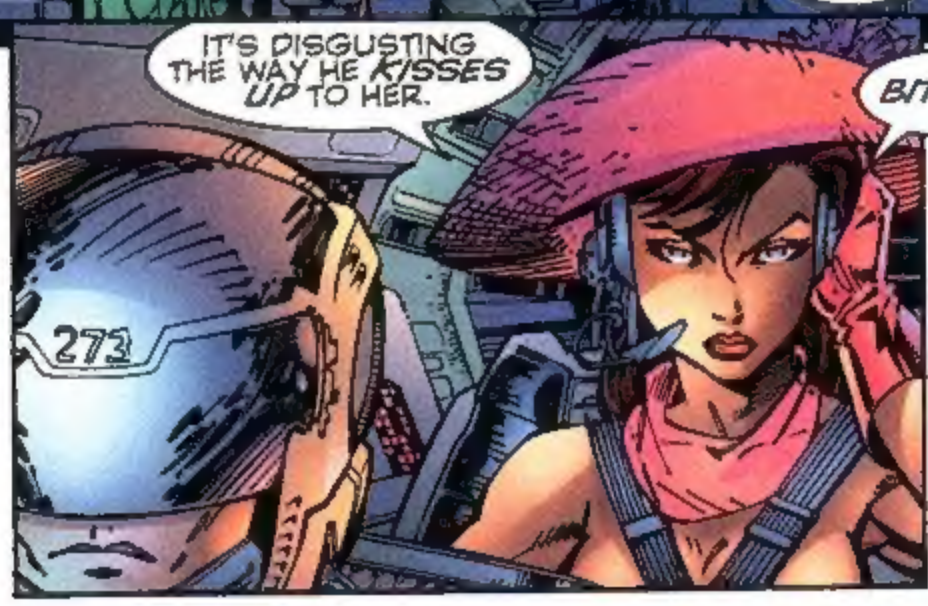
I'LL LEAVE THAT TO YOU, *MATT*.

AFTER ALL, IT *IS* WHAT YOU DO *BEST*.

CIAO!

RREOW!

ARE WE READY TO GO?
YES, MA'AM.
BUT I NEED A *FLIGHT PLAN* AND *SECURITY CLEARANCE* FROM *Ms. BAIUL* BEFORE WE CAN --
DO YOU *KNOW* WHO I AM?
ER, YES, MA'AM.
AND WHAT I'M CAPABLE OF *DOING* TO YOU?
YE -- YES, MA'AM.
THEN THAT'S *ALL* YOU NEED TO KNOW.
I'LL TELL YOU OUR *DESTINATION* ONCE WE'RE *AIRBORNE.*
YES, MA'AM. WHATEVER YOU SAY, MA'AM.
VVVVVMMMM



TODAY.

IF ALL ROADS LEAD TO ROME THEN THEY CONVERGE HERE AT THE LEONARDO DA VINCI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

AT THE MOMENT, HOWEVER, THE JET PLANES CAN ONLY SIT IDLY BY ON THE TARMAC.

FOR THE THIRD TIME IN TWO YEARS, A LABOR STRIKE HAS SHUT DOWN ITALY'S BUSIEST AIRPORT.

WE REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR HELP, MR. BOVINI.

JIM McARTHUR TOLD US THAT YOU AND MR. LYNCH ARE OLD FRIENDS --

JUST BEFORE HE DECIDED TO BAIL IN CAIRO!

AND THAT YOU COULD HELP US IF WE RAN INTO ANY PROBLEMS.

IT WOULD BE MY PLEASURE, SIGNORINA FAIRCHILD!

AS I TOLD YOU ON THE TELEFONO, ANY FRIENDS OF JOHN LYNCH ARE FRIENDS OF MINE.

BUT IF YOU GET THE CHANCE, PERHAPS YOU MIGHT ASK SIGNOR LYNCH ABOUT SOME OLD PHOTOGRAPHS OF MINE...

...THAT I LEFT IN HIS CARE, SI?

NO PROBLEMO, DUDE.

CONSIDER IT DONE.

SO, CAN WE GET OUT OF HERE NOW?

CERTAMENTE!

ALLOW ME TO BE YOUR GUIDE WHILE YOU ARE HERE IN ROME.

CHE PUZZA!

PERCHÉ PERDE TEMPO CON QUESTI RAGAZZI, SIGNORE?

SNIFF SNIFF

LYNCH HA DEI NEGATIVI CHE POTREBBERO ROVINARMI, VINCENZO. FINCHÉ NON LI AVRÒ, FAREMO QUALSIASI COSA SERVA.

BENE!

FIRST, WE MUST CHECK YOU INTO A HOTEL AND THEN GO SHOPPING!

*FOR TRANSLATIONS, SEE LETTERS PAGE.

HELLOOO! DID SOMEONE SAY SHOPPING?!

I'M ALL OVER THAT!

ROXY!

WE DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY!

THAT NEVER STOPPED THIS GIRL!

VIA BORGOGNONA, ROME.
THE BOUTIQUES HERE ARE AMONG THE MOST EXCLUSIVE IN THE WORLD.
A SHOWCASE FOR THE ITALIAN FASHION DESIGNERS TO DISPLAY THEIR LATEST COLLECTIONS.
DON'T TELL ME.
IT'S THE CHEF BOYARDEE LOOK.
BOYARDEE?
NEVER MIND.
NEXT.
YOU HAVE NOTHING IN MY SIZE?
CLAP CLAP
WE SHALL CREATE AN ORIGINAL FOR YOU, SIGNORINA!
OOO, I FEEL SO VOGUE!
EAT YOUR HEART OUT, MADONNA!
FORGIVE ME, MARILYN!
YO! PEEP OUT THE BOY WONDER THREADS!
YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH PAGLIACCI?
CHECK OUT THE TREK WEAR.
HELM, WARP FACTOR FIVE!
ENGAGE!
IMPOSSIBLE!
THIS J.J. GEAR GETS MAD PROPS!
WORD!
GIGGLE

LATER THAT EVENING...
TUTTO
I HOPE YOU GENTLEMEN HAVE A HEARTY APPETITO!
THE CUISINE HERE IS...
...MOLTO DELIZIOSO!
HEY, I LOVE ITALIAN FOOD, Mr. BOVINI.
I DON'T THINK SPAGHETTI-O'S COUNT, GRUNGE.
WHERE ARE THE GIRLS?
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR OVER AN HOUR NOW.
DUDE, THEY'RE HIGH MAINTENANCE CHICKS.
IT'S JUST THE NATURE OF THE BEAST.
SLAM
EH?
BEASTS, HUH?
GLOOP!
HI, GUYS.
SORRY WE'RE LATE.
BUT THERE WERE JUST SO MANY CHOICES TO MAKE.
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
KAT, WE'RE THE BOMB!
DIDN'T YOU SEE ALL THOSE GUYS SCOPING US OUT?
NOW THAT WE'RE HERE, LET'S GET BUSY! BRING ON THE GRUB!

YOU LOOK GREAT, SARAH.
THANK YOU, BOBBY.
BELLEZZA!
LET ME GET THAT CHAIR FOR YOU, KAT.
THANKS, GRUNGE.
YOU SPEAK ITALIAN?

SURE! ME AND MR. B BEEN CHILLIN'.
IT SOUNDS GOOD, DOESN'T IT?

UH, HANG ON A SEC, SARAH.
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
SURE, BOBBY.

TULLIO

PHA

LET ME GET THAT FOR YOU.
Hmm?
FWWSSH

I THOUGHT YOU QUIT SMOKING.
I CHANGED MY MIND.
FWWSSH
YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH THAT?

NOPE.
ARE YOU OKAY?
DOES IT *LOOK* LIKE IT?
I MEAN, WHY IS GRUNGE SUCH A *JERK*?
I KNOW IT *HURTS*, ROX --
-- GRUNGE IS *BLIND* TO THE THINGS THAT REALLY MATTER.
I... KNOW.
AND THAT'S WHAT MAKES IT EVEN *WORSE*, BOBBY.
I'VE BEEN THERE TOO, ROX.
AND TRUST ME, YOU *LEARN* TO LIVE WITH IT.
EVENTUALLY.

GIGGLE
THANKS, BOBBY.
YOU REALLY ARE A *NICE GUY*.
BUT IN THE MEANTIME, THERE'S MORE TO *ROME* THAN *GRUNGE*.
YEAH, WELL, SOMETIMES I THINK *THAT* MAY BE MY *PROBLEM*.

HEY, LOOK WHO I FOUND WANDERING OUTSIDE!
BENE!
COME! LET'S MAKE A TOAST!
SO WHAT'LL WE DRINK TO?

I KNOW! TO GOOD FRIENDS!
HERE!
HERE!

SEVERAL BOTTLES LATER...
I... I... FEEL... *WARM* ALL OVER.
HEHE! THAT'S JUST ME.
GIGGLE!

BUONA NOTTE, MY FRIENDS! SEE YOU ALL TOMORROW MORNING!
WHAT? NO CLUBBING?!
SORRY, ROX, I GOTTA CRASH.
ME, TOO.
MAY I ESCORT YOU HOME, SIGNORINA?
OF COURSE, SIGNOR.

WELL, I GUESS I SHOULD BE GOING --

LOOK, SARAH, I KNOW THAT THINGS HAVE BEEN A LITTLE *DICEY* BETWEEN US LATELY, BUT

Sshh...

NUK NUK NUK

GRUNGE?

ARE YOU *ALL RIGHT* IN THERE?

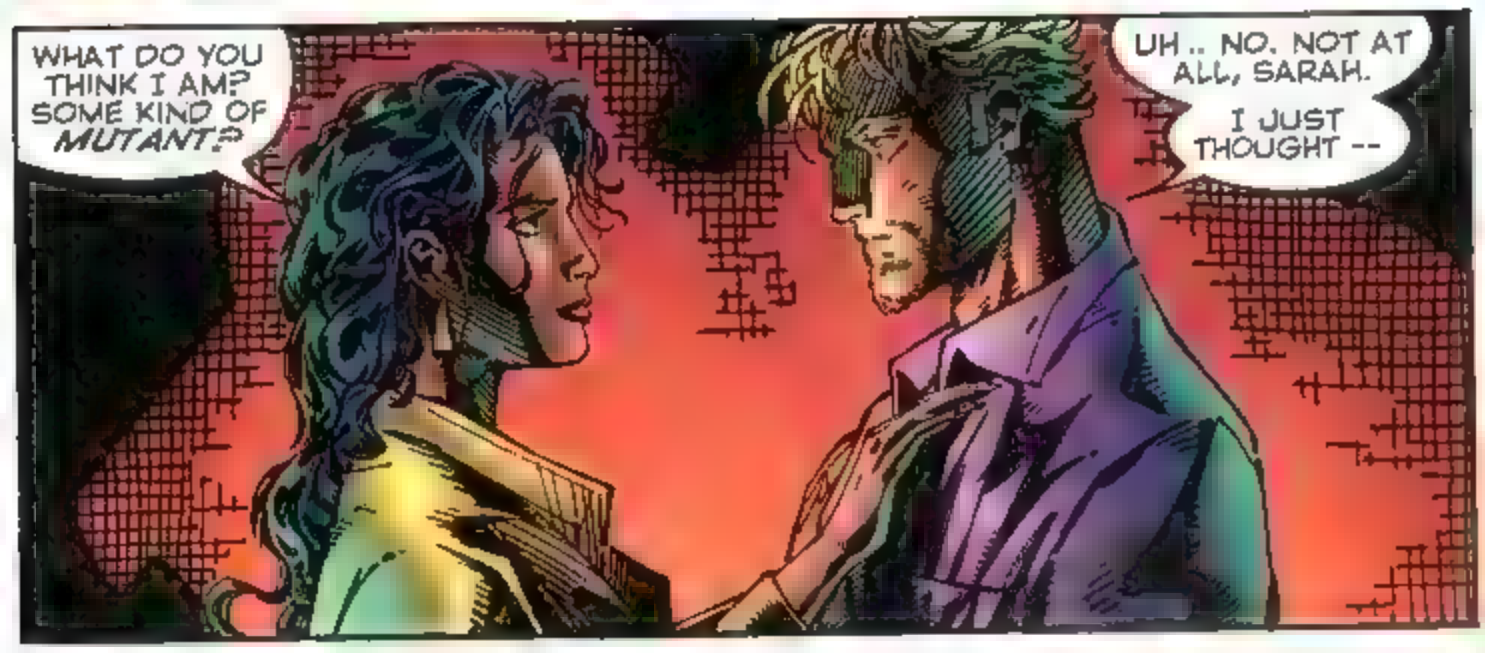
HUM MMM HUM MMM

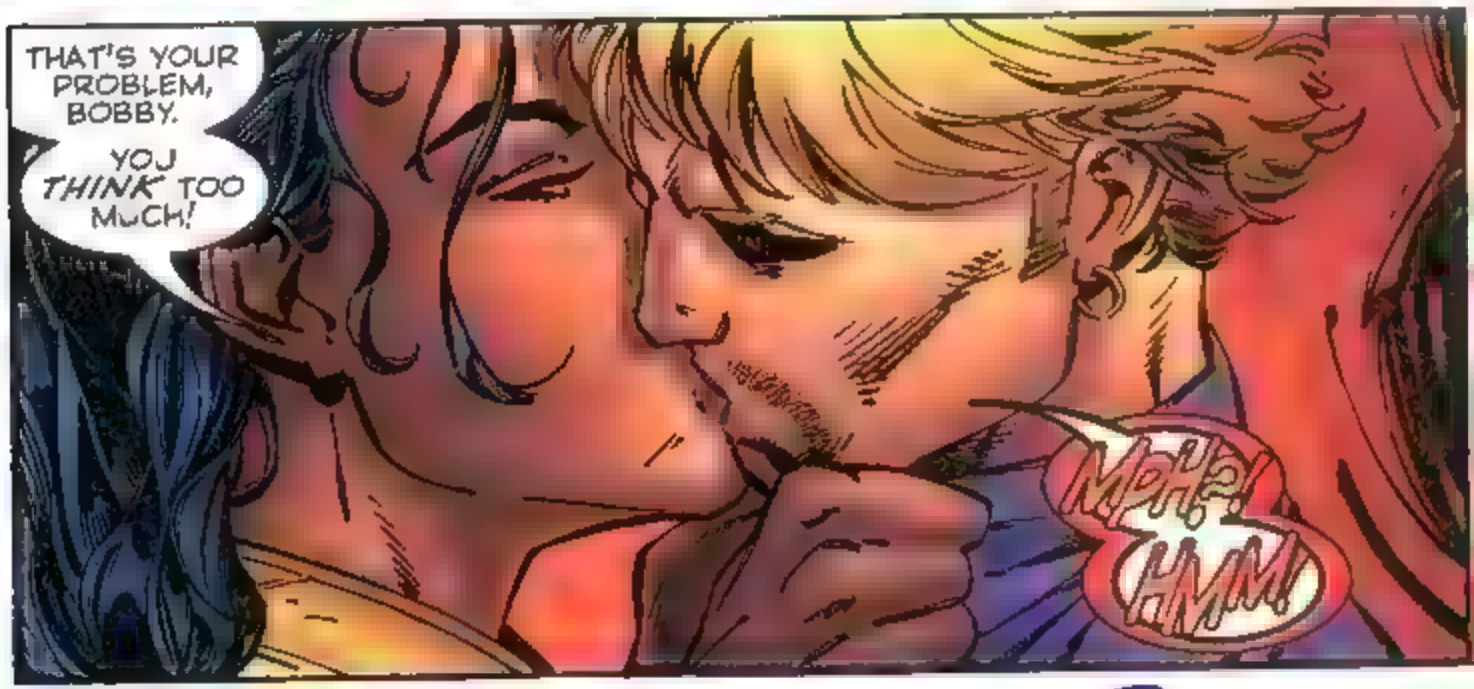
Huh?

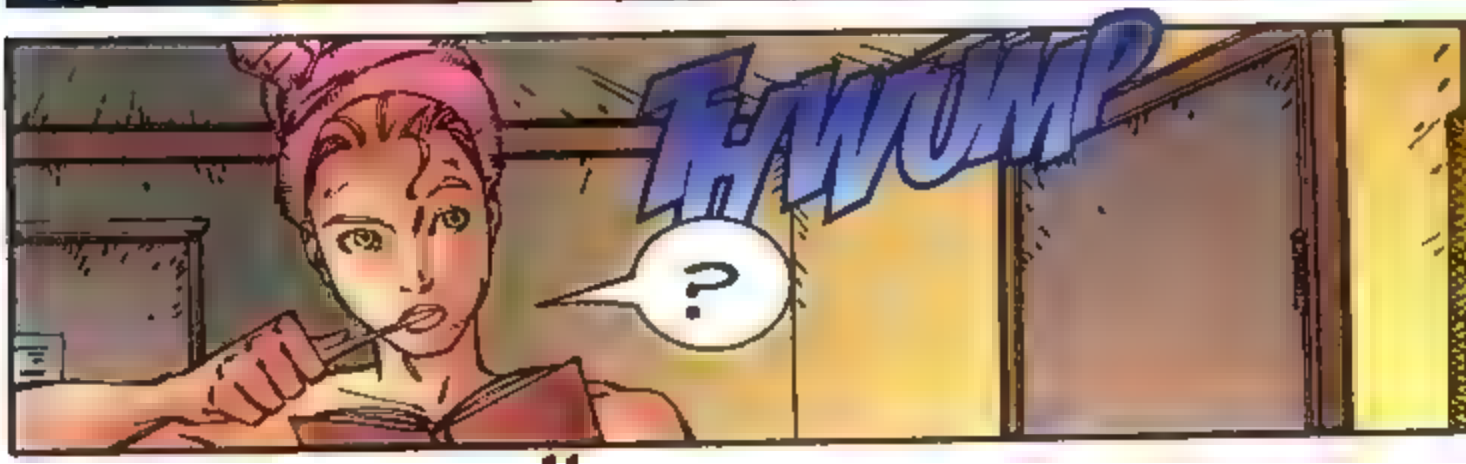
WHY DON'T YOU STAY?

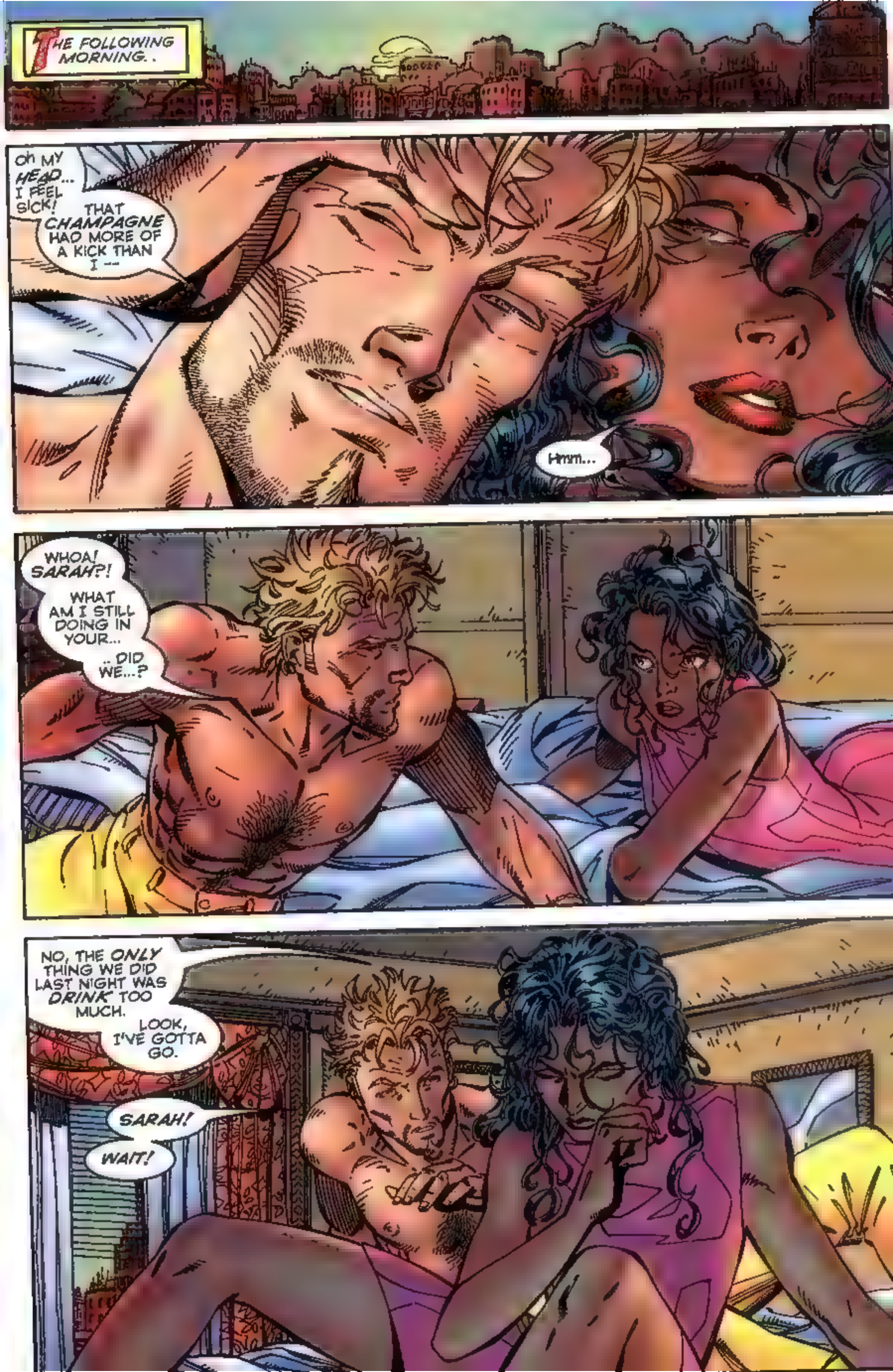
BUT ROXY SAID THAT YOU WEREN'T INTO MY *KIND*.

YOUR "*KIND*," BOBBY?








THE FOLLOWING MORNING..
OH MY HEAD... I FEEL SICK!
THAT CHAMPAGNE HAD MORE OF A KICK THAN I --
Hmm...
WHOA! SARAH?!
WHAT AM I STILL DOING IN YOUR...
.. DID WE...?
NO, THE ONLY THING WE DID LAST NIGHT WAS DRINK TOO MUCH.
LOOK, I'VE GOTTA GO.
SARAH!
WAIT!

LOOK, BOBBY. LAST NIGHT WAS...

A MISTAKE.

YOU'RE JUST NOT --

I MEAN, THAT'S JUST NOT WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR IN MY LIFE RIGHT NOW.

WHAT?!

A MISTAKE?

SARAH, I THINK WE REALLY OUGHT TO TALK ABOUT THIS.

PLEASE, BOBBY, DON'T MAKE THIS ANY HARDER FOR ME THAN IT ALREADY IS.

AND DON'T MENTION THIS TO ANY OF THE OTHERS, OKAY?

FINE, SARAH!

WHAT-EVER YOU SAY!

CRASH

CITTA DEL VATICANO, VATICAN CITY.

HEADQUARTERS OF *THE ORDER OF THE CROSS.

*SEE DEATHBLOW 4-12

CARDINALE ROSETTI!

I SENSORI RILEVANO UN SEGNALE ATTIVO DI ENERGIA ESP ALL'INTERNO DI ROMA!

RICEVO ANCHE DIVERSI SEGNALI LATENTI NELLA STESSA ZONA.

IN PASSATO SOLO STORMWATCH AVEVA OSATO VIOLARE LA NOSTRA GIURISDIZIONE!

IL COMANDO ONU CI HA CONTATTATI, FRATELLO?

NO, SIGNORE

ALLERTATE I NOSTRI AGENTI!

L'ORDINE DELLA CROCE NON TOLLERERÀ UNA SECONDA INTRUSIONE!

VALUTAZIONE MINACCIA ESP?

"ALLARME ROSSO, CARDINALE! MASSIMO PERICOLO!"

FOR NEARLY TWO THOUSAND YEARS, **THE ORDER OF THE CROSS** HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PRESERVATION AND WELL-BEING OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

FWOOSH

BORN ON THE DAY CHRIST DIED ON THE CROSS, **THE BROTHERS OF ORDER** HAVE DEDICATED AND SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES TO PROTECT THE CHURCH FROM THE FORCES OF EVIL. BUT MUCH HAS CHANGED SINCE THAT FIRST DAY.

TODAY'S BRAVE NEW WORLD IS ONE FILLED WITH BEINGS WHO POSSESS FANTASTIC POWERS. AND TO DEAL WITH THIS NEW KIND OF THREAT, **THE BROTHERS OF THE ORDER OF THE CROSS** HAVE ASSEMBLED THEIR OWN TEAM OF **SUPER-POWERED BEINGS.**

THE HAND OF GOD..

FIVE PEOPLE WHO HAVE COMMITTED THEIR LIVES AND SUPER-POWERS TO **SAFEGUARD** THE CHURCH AND DESTROY ITS ENEMIES AT **ANY** COST.

CARMINE AMOROSO.

ARMATO.

SARA SERENI.

VELENA.

PAOLO LIVORATI.

VOLARE.

VANIA CATANA.

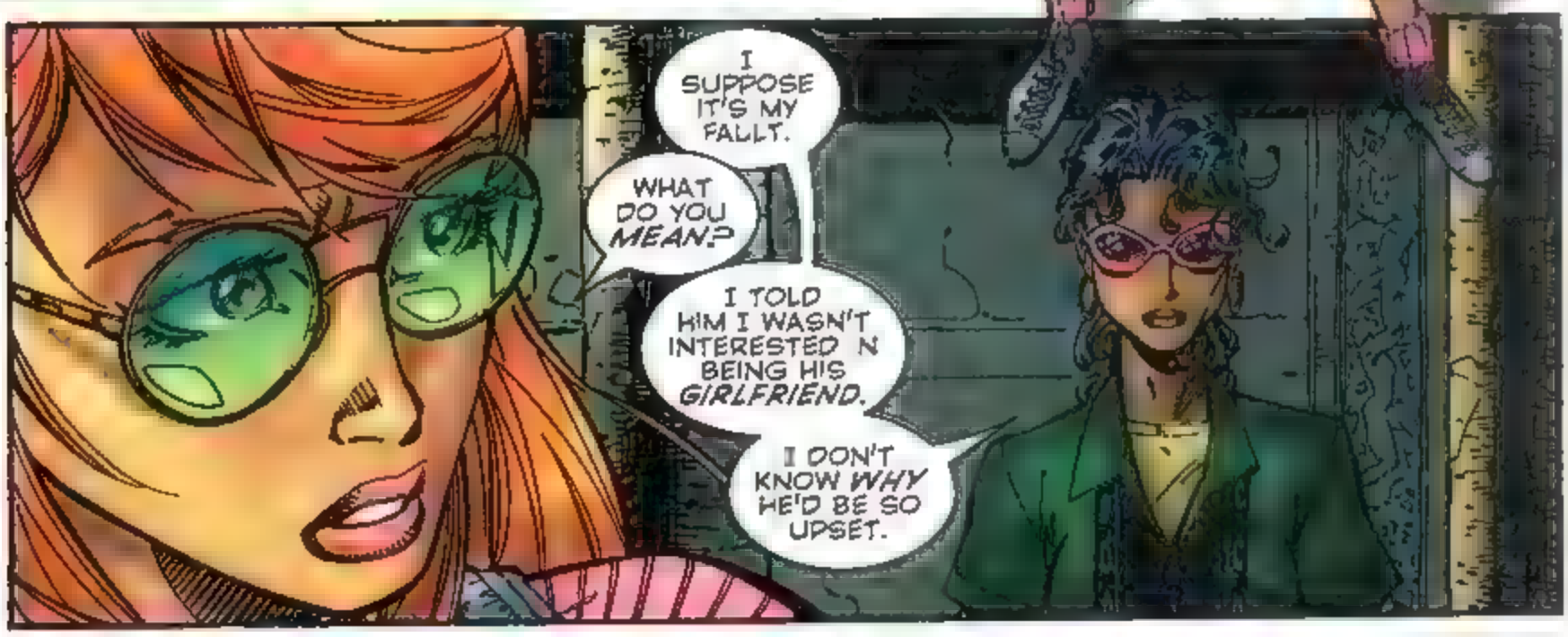
DOMINA.

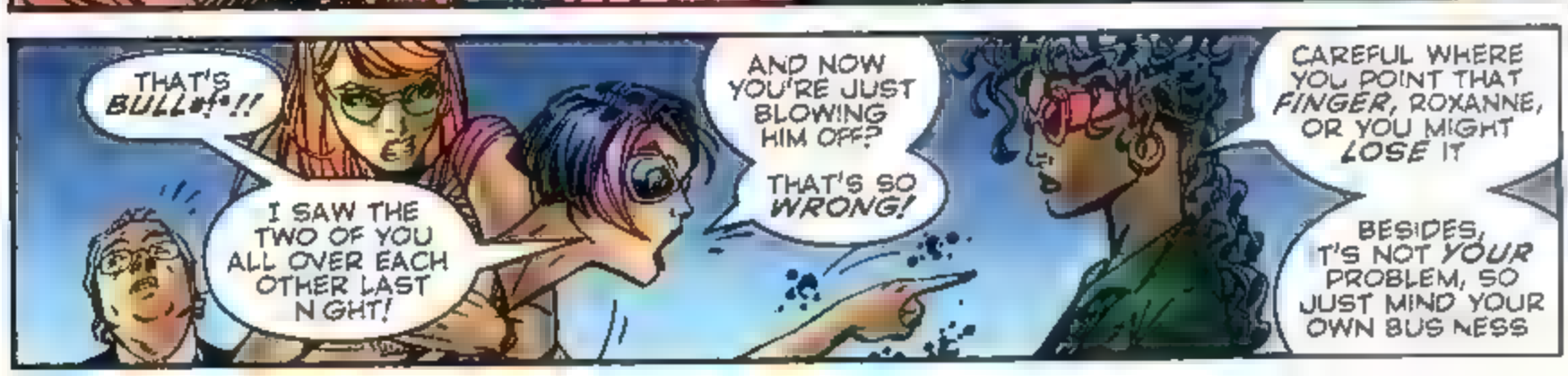
LUCA LOLETTI.

SURGE.

VEEP VEEP VEEP VEEP VEEP VEEP VEEP VEEP VEEP VEEP VEEP VEEP VEEP VEEP VEEP

SWEET WHEELS, MR B! ISN'T TH S THE NEW F-- HEY!
CHECK OUT BOBBY!
THAT FIERY COMET IS YOUR FRIEND?
LOOKS LIKE HE'S FEELING A LITTLE FRISKY THIS MORNING!
I GUESS SOMEBODY GOT LUCKY LAST NIGHT AFTER ALL.
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO HIM?
BOBBY KNOWS BETTER THAN TO SHOW OFF LIKE THAT!
HE COULD GET US INTO TROUBLE W TH THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES.





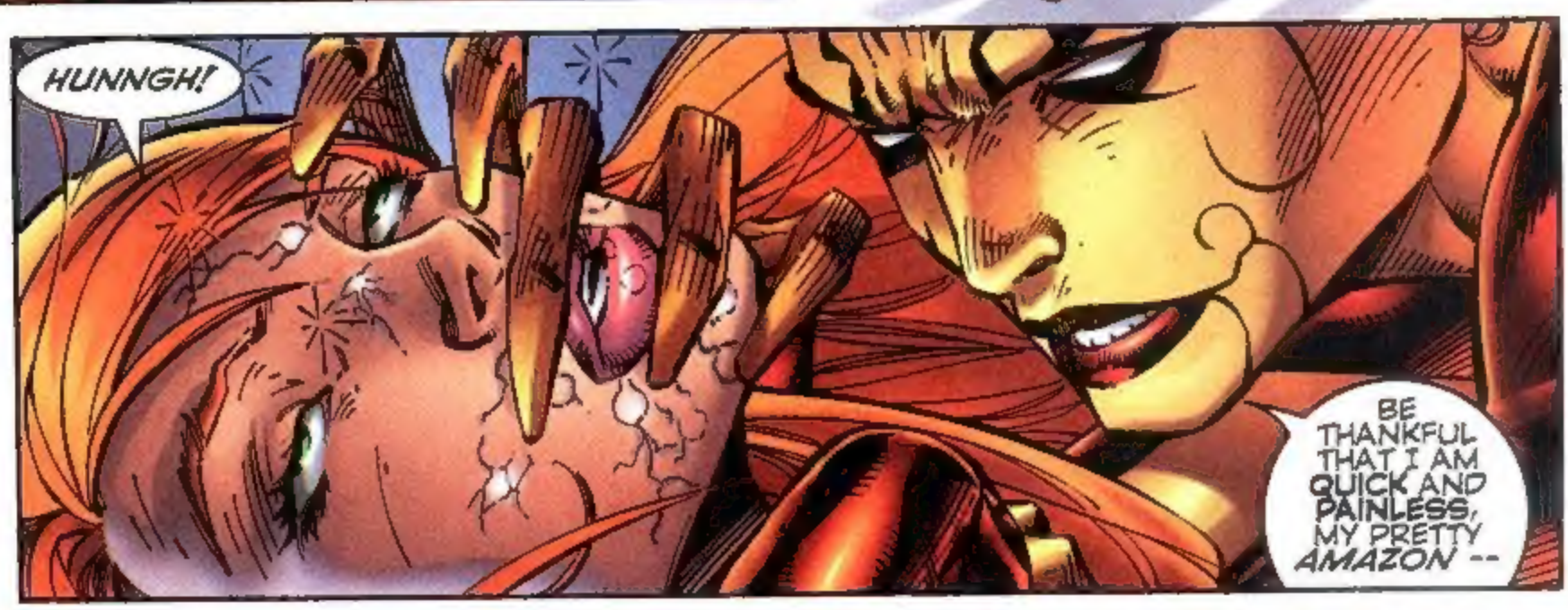
YOU SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT BEFORE COMING TO ROME!
OMIGOSH!
UH-OH!
WHO ARE THESE FASHION DISASTERS?
WHOOSH
CAN WE ALL JUST STAY CLEAR OF THE CAR?!
UH, LOOK GUYS!
WE ARE THE CENTURIONS!
THE GUARDIANS OF ROME!
PRENDILA, SURGE!
CONSIDER IT DONE, VOLARE!
THE HELL WITH THE CAR, GRUNGE!
SOMEBODY HELP ME!
ROXY!
HO FERMATO LA SECONDA DONNA, VELENA!
NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT HER, CAITLIN!
WE'VE GOT TO HIT BACK WHILE WE'VE STILL GOT A CHANCE!
ALLORA L'ULTIMA È MIA, ARMATO.

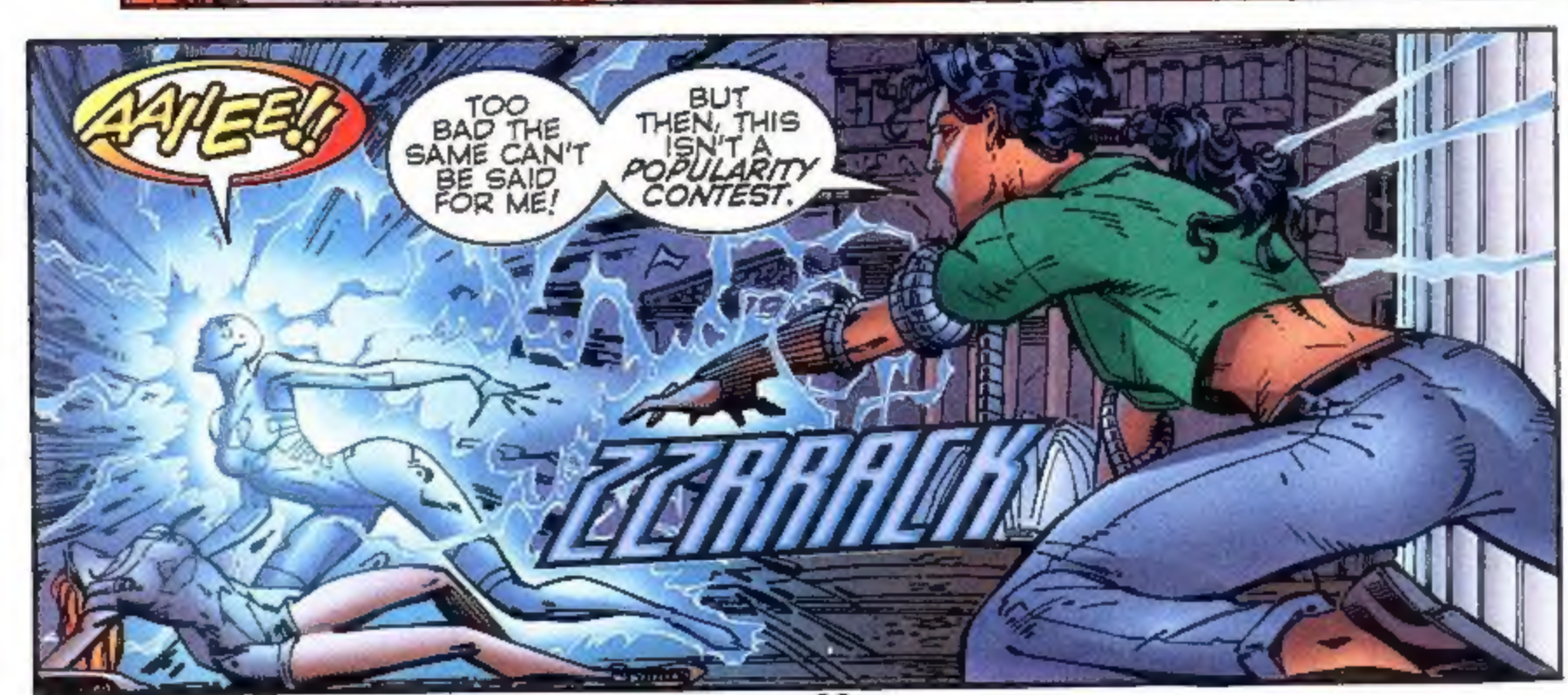
SOMETHING'S GOING ON BACK AT THE HOTEL!
AND IT LOOKS LIKE TROUBLE!
I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT YOUR FRIENDS, AMERICANO.
KA-BOOM
YOU'VE GOT TROUBLES OF YOUR OWN
RRRAAAP
WHOP!
THUMP
I AM DOMINA.
YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE BROKE THE VATICAN EDICT.
AND FOR THAT YOU MUST BE PUNISHED.
DON'T -- KNOW -- WHAT YOU'RE -- TALKING ABOUT
YOU'VE BEEN A VERY BAD BOY TODAY
FLAUNTING YOUR POWERS FOR ALL TO SEE
IT'S TIME YOU WERE TAUGHT A LESSON!
SLAP
ARGH!

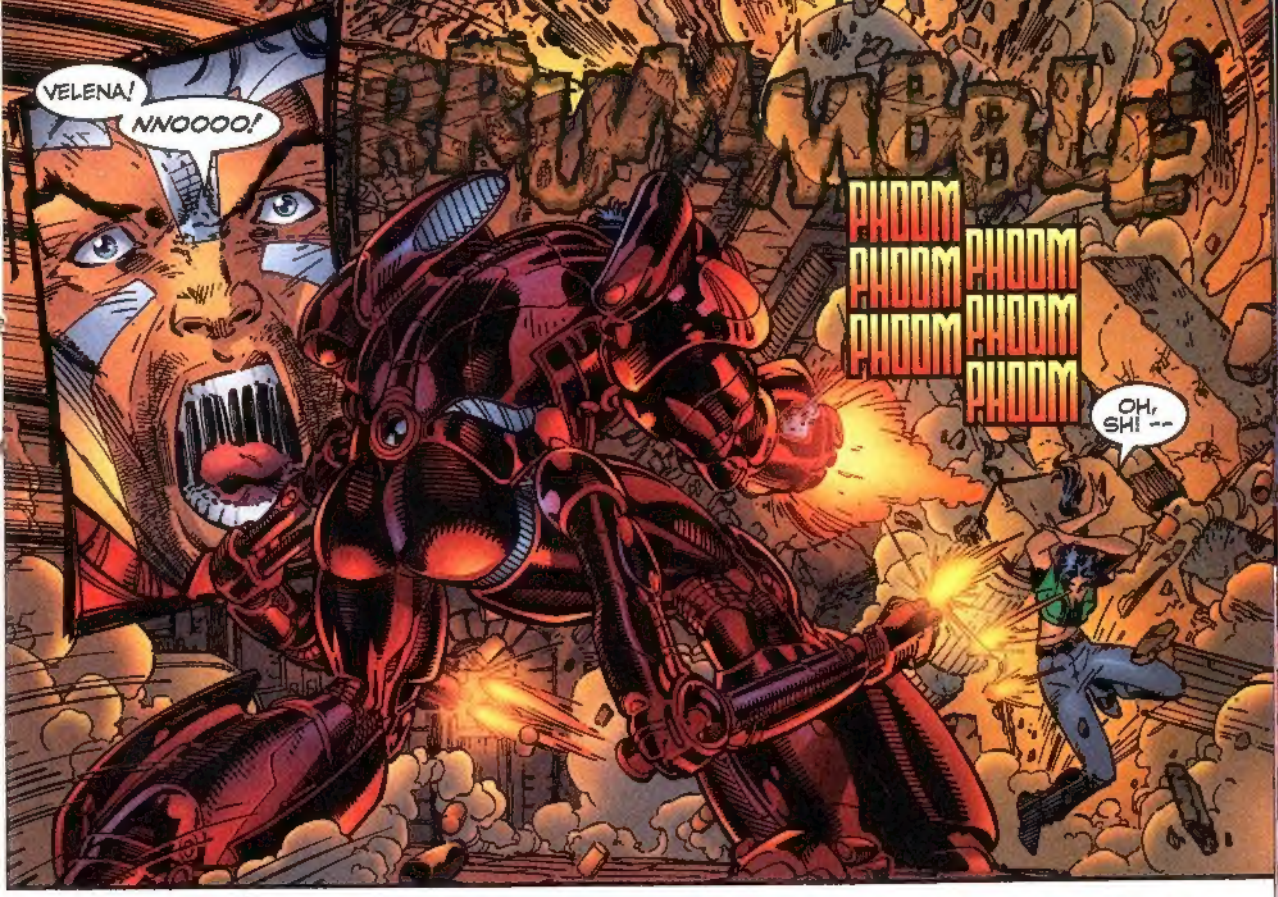
"BUT DON'T WORRY, YOUR FRIENDS WILL BE SHARING IN YOUR PAIN!"
FINE DELLA CORSA, SIGNORINA!
ECCO! LA RIPORTERÒ PERSINO DAL SUO AMICO!
AAIIEE!
WHUMP
HANG ON, ROXY!
I'VE GOT --
HUNNGH!

I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS STARTED THIS FIGHT, BUT I INTEND TO FINISH IT!
YOU'RE CERTAINLY WELCOME TO TRY.

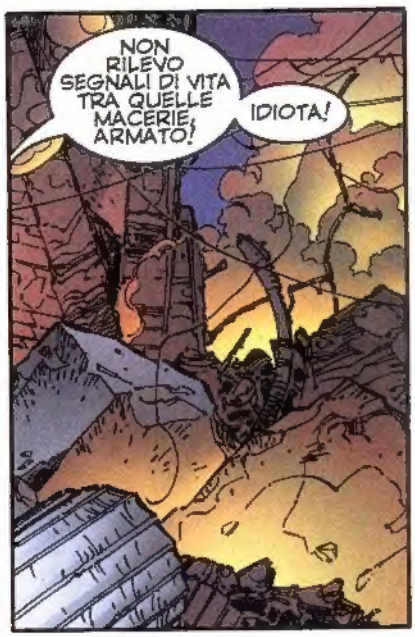
ONCE I GET MY HANDS ON YOU, I'M GOING TO --
DO NOTHING!
WHAP
mMblm -- BLACKING...
...out -- mmpph!


HUNNGH!
BE THANKFUL THAT I AM QUICK AND PAINLESS, MY PRETTY AMAZON --


AAIEE!!
TOO BAD THE SAME CAN'T BE SAID FOR ME!
BUT THEN, THIS ISN'T A POPULARITY CONTEST.
ZZRRACK


VELENA!
NNOOOO!
PHOOM PHOOM PHOOM PHOOM PHOOM PHOOM
OH, SH! --

BUON DIO!
FORSE È STATO UN PO' ESAGERATO.


NON RILEVO SEGNALI DI VITA TRA QUELLE MACERIE, ARMATO!
IDIOTA!

CHE COSA HAI FATTO?!
DOVEVAMO CATTURARLI VIVI!

MI... MI SPIACE, PROFESSORE! NON VOLEVO...
SEI UNA MINACCIA PEGGIORE PER I NOSTRI CITTADINI DI QUANTO LO SIANO QUESTI RAGAZZI!
COME SPIEGHIAMO QUESTO SFACELO AL CARDINALE ROSETTI?

PENSEREMO UN'ALTRA VOLTA ALLA RISPOSTA, VOLARE.

STA ARRIVANDO LA POLIZIA.

DAVVERO, SURGE, NON VOLEVO FERIRE NESSUNO.

SOLO NON POTEVO SOPPORTARE DI VEDER FARE DEL MALE A VELENA.

TACI, ARMATO!

SONO STUFO DELLE TUE SCUSE!

RISPARMIALE PER IL CARDINALE ROSETTI!

"SPERO SOLO CHE DOMINA SE LA STIA CAVANDO MEGLIO."

ENOUGH FOREPLAY!

NOW IT'S TIME FOR THE BIG BA -- AAAIEEE!

SHRAK

MY MIND!

HUH?

?!

HELLO, BOBBY.

HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN ME ALL READY, HAVE YOU?

YOU'RE A *HARD MAN* TO FIND.

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I CAME AT A *GOOD TIME*.

BLISS?!

TO BE CONTINUED!